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VIA FACSIMILE: 703-308-6642 Attn: Kay Pinkney

Patent

Mail Stop Issue Fee

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Patent Application of:

NANNING J. ARFSTEN et al.

Conf. No.: 8672

: Group Art Unit: 1775

Appln. No.: 09/437,948

: Examiner:

Jennifer McNeil

Filing Date: November 10, 1999

: Attorney Docket No.: 275-3

Title:

NIOBIUM OXIDE-BASED LAYERS FOR THIN FILM OPTICAL COATINGS

AND PROCESSES FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

AMENDMENT AFTER ALLOWANCE

The following Amendment and Remarks are submitted in response to a phone call to the undersigned on August 26, 2004 from Kay Pinkney of Quality Assurance at the U.S. PTO. Please amend the application after allowance without prejudice as follows.